(v) Keeping in view the misuse/diversion of SKO for adulteration, the import of SKO by private parties has been canalized through OMCs.

(vi) As advised by the Government, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have created a separate wing to report to a Director other than Director (Marketing), which will oversee and monitor all activities and operations to curb adulteration and specify norms and guidelines in this regard.

Transportation charge of gas

673. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat is facing injustice in energy costing by incurring higher transportation cost on coal but paying the same transportation charge as hinterland States in case of gas;

(b) whether Gujarat should be allowed the benefit in terms of a lower cost for transporting gas over shorter distance *vis-a-vis* hinterland States, as per the practice followed for transporation of coal; and

(c) whether the Central Government have approved such bills in other States and if so, in which States, Government have approved such bills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The gas from onshore/isolated fields in Gujarat is supplied through dedicated regional networks to customers in the State. In these cases, transmission tariff is computer on the basis of investment in the respective network. As the fields afe located in Gujarat, the investment in regional networks for supplying gas to customers in the State would be less than what it would be for customers based in other States; so the transmission tariff for customers in Gujarat is obviously lesser.

However, in case of trunk lines, namely, Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) pipeline and Dahej-Vijaipur pipeline (DVPL), a combined single tariff of-Rs. 831/MSCM, with escalation formula, is being followed *w.e.f.* 1-6-2006. However, to benefit the customers in Gujarat, the tariff for connectivity of Gujarat State Petronet Limited (GSPL) to DVPL) has been kept at Rs. 280/MSCM.

(c) No, Sir.